

Outdoor California Magazine Annual Photography Contest

The California Department of Fish and Game's Outdoor California magazine sponsors an annual photo contest. The entries are judged by a panel of wildlife photographers and biologists. In addition to "Photograph of the Year," awards are given for excellence and honorable mention. Award winning entries from the eight categories (birds, mammals, fish, aquatic invertebrates, terrestrial invertebrates, plants, natural environment, and wildlife in action) are featured in the March-April issue of the magazine. Entries for the photo contest must be received by the Conservation Education office prior to noon on December 31st.

The following should be kept in mind:

- Only photographs of live fish, wildlife and plant species in their native habitat will be considered. All photographs must be of native California species.
- Photographers should avoid artificial structures (fences, utility poles, etc.) in their submissions.
- All submissions must be 35 mm slide duplicates.

For an official entry form, photographers should call DFG at 916 653-7664, or write Conservation Education at 1416 Ninth Street, Room 1240, Sacramento, CA 95814; or visit our website at www.dfg.ca.gov/coned/photo_c.html.

Salmonids in the Classroom Program

This is a hands-on, interdisciplinary project for grades K-12. Classroom teachers and their students raise trout or salmon in the classroom and learn about salmonid life cycles and habitats. The program culminates with a field trip to a local stream or river, where the fish are released. This project is coordinated by the California Department of Fish and Game's Anadromous Fisheries Restoration Project in the San Joaquin Valley, Southern Sierra Region.

All newcomers to the Salmonids in the Classroom program must attend a teacher workshop or arrange alternative training before participating in the program.

If you are interested in participating in the program, please contact Gail Hickman Davis, regional coordinator of the Salmonids in the Classroom program, at the DFG: 1234 East Shaw Avenue, Fresno, CA 93710; or call 559-243-4005 x 137; or e-mail, at gaildavi@dfg2.ca.gov. Workshops are scheduled for Hanford, Turlock, Visalia, Sonora, Clovis, Bakersfield and Merced.

In Southern California, the Fly Fishers Club of Orange County coordinates the Trout in the Classroom Program. There are now 200 classrooms participating. The Fillmore and Mohave River Trout Hatcheries provide trout eggs for classroom studies, three times a year. Teachers and volunteers interested in additional program information may contact: Fly Fishers Club of Orange County, c/o Ken Reed, P.O. Box 23005, Santa Ana, CA 92711-3005; or call 909-595-3520.

Personalized license plates protect California's natural resources

By purchasing from the Department of Motor Vehicles an environmental license plate - an official California plate displaying letters and numbers that you choose, such as your name, favorite sports team, or other message - you can make a statement, while helping to fund top-priority natural resource programs.

For over a quarter century, Californians have done just that. As a result, they have generously — and voluntarily — provided over \$500 million for important environmental programs.

The wide variety of programs and activities throughout California that benefit from the revenues generated include:

- the protection of threatened and endangered plants and animals;
- the enhancement and restoration of fish and wildlife habitat at key locations around the state;
- the purchase and restoration of sensitive natural areas for the California State Park System, and for local and regional parks;
- the reduction of soil erosion and sediment discharge into Lake Tahoe, and restoration of disturbed wetlands and sensitive stream areas; and
- a wide variety of environmental education programs that actively involve schools, wildlife areas, community groups, and other public and private partners throughout California.

Contact your local Department of Motor Vehicles office.

Remember California's Endangered Species at tax time.



Nearly 300 of California's native plant and animal species have been pushed to the brink of extinction. You can help turn things around by making a voluntary, tax deductible contribution on Line 50 when you do your taxes. This helps endangered species by conserving and enhancing critical habitat. You can make a difference. Please help!